GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3761
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2001
PRICE OF INDIGENOUS AND IMPORTED COACHES
SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the manufacturing cost of indigenous coach vis-a-vis those imported from Germany;

(b) the reasons for import of those coaches;

(c) whether production of the railway coaches has come down in the country;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the details of measures likely to be taken by the Government to increase the production of railway coaches in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) The cost of similar indigenous coach built to old technology of 1950s is approximately Rs.50.6 lacs (during 1998-1999). The average cost of imported coach is Rs.4.46 crores (Free on Board) which includes the development cost and cost of jigs & fixtures supplied along with the coaches.. The imported coach has a number of advanced safety and passenger comfort features.

(b) Since Indian Railways were using technology of 1950s and passenger safety and comfort level had taken a quantum jump in developed countries, need was felt to acquire modern technology for providing higher safety, comfort and reduced cost of operation. The coaches were imported to prove the technology under actual field experience, prior to building them indigenously in the railway production units under transfer of technology agreement.

(c) to (e) The targets and actual production of coaches in the last three years is given below:

Year	Target	Actual
1998-1999	2571	2466
1999-2000	2397	2453
2000-2001	2262	2256

The production of coaches is based on the passenger traffic requirements and availability of funds. The present production level of coaches is commensurate with the traffic arisings and funds availability.